

as being unpatentable over Doerr et al., U.S. Patent No. 20020106143 (Doerr '143). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Paragraph 4 of the above referenced Office Action explicitly states that a Fourier type filter is not shown by Doerr '143. Applicants respectfully assert that there is no suggestion within the cited reference for the inclusion of a Fourier filter as explicitly claimed. Doerr '143 points out the use of phase shifters. However, Applicants point out that phase shifters are not the same as a Fourier filter as explicitly recited in the independent Claims.

Paragraph 5 of the above referenced Office Action states that independent Claims 1, 7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saida et al., U.S. Patent No. 20030031406 (Saida). Applicants respectfully traverse by pointing out that, as explicitly cited in paragraph 4 of the above referenced Office Action, a Fourier type filter is not shown by Saida. Applicants respectfully assert that there is no suggestion within the cited reference for the inclusion of a Fourier filter as explicitly claimed. Saida points out the use of optical couplers. However, Applicants point out that optical couplers are not the same as a Fourier filter as explicitly recited in the independent Claims.

Paragraph 6 of the above referenced Office Action states that independent Claims 1, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doerr et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,212,315 (Doerr '315). Applicants respectfully traverse by pointing out that, as explicitly cited by paragraph 7 of the above referenced Office Action, a Fourier type filter is not shown by Doerr '315. Applicants respectfully assert that there is no suggestion within the cited reference for the inclusion of a Fourier filter as explicitly claimed. Doerr '315 points out the use of phase shifters. However, Applicants point out that phase shifters are not the same as a Fourier filter as explicitly recited in the independent Claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the present invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 7, and 13 is not rendered obvious by the cited references.

#### Drawing objections

Applicants have submitted here with formal drawings to correct the objections cited and paragraph 2 of the above referenced Office Action.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that all claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present application. Please charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 23-0085.

Respectfully submitted,  
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